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Samuel Lazarow Fellowship

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The Plenary Sessions

In the plenary sessions, keynote speaker John Berry, editor-in-chief of *Library Journal*, set the tone by congratulating acquisitions and collection management librarians on their accomplishments in acquiring and providing access to information, but he warned against letting "market forces" determine libraries' collecting patterns. Information, he asserted, is not a commodity and should not be treated as such. Tendencies to acquire only those materials in heaviest demand, or those whose users are most influential, is likely to result in a society of information "haves and have nots," to the detriment of all.

Against Berry's backdrop of "market forces," Becky Lenzini of the Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries (CARL) suggested a brave new world of

powerful information technology and intensive cooperative resource sharing. Libraries' collective buying power is enormous, Lenzini maintained. In conjunction with ever more powerful technologies for information access and document delivery, libraries should be able to cheerfully abandon their efforts to collect comprehensively and instead focus on information access. Lenzini described the access systems — from BITNET to the proposed National Research and Education Network (NREN) — already in place and those being developed.

Lenzini's faith in technology was an apt complement to expressions of the growing faith acquisitions and collection management librarians now have in themselves. As Program Chair Katina Strauch (College of Charleston) observed, "we're the ones" college and university administrators are turning to for

an understanding of what is happening in the world of publishing and why those changes are having a negative impact on our materials budgets. In coping with the serials crisis we have become savvier, better-informed, and more confident consumers. Karen Schmidt echoed these sentiments by pointing out that acquisitions as a discipline within librarianship is coming into its own; the body of practice and theory relating to the acquisitions of materials is becoming more recognized, more disseminated, and more respected. As for whether there will continue to be a place for acquisitions and collection managers in a resource sharing world, consensus was that our role likely would expand, if anything. With the increasing utilization of advanced information technologies, libraries more and more will need an individual

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Samuel Lazerow Fellowship for Research in Acquisitions or Technical Services

Purpose: To foster advances in acquisitions or technical services in an academic or research library by providing librarians a fellowship for research, travel, or writing in those fields. Research projects in collection development or the compilation of bibliographies will not be supported by this fellowship.

Donor: The Institute for Scientific Information funds the fellowship, which consists of a \$1,000 cash award and a citation, in memory of one of their senior vice-presidents who had a distinguished career in library and information science, and who held high-level posts in each of the three national libraries of the U. S. - National Library of Agriculture, National Library of Medicine, and the Library of Congress.

Criteria: The proposals will be judged with an emphasis on the following:

1. Potential significance of the project to acquisitions or technical services work.
2. Originality and creativity.
3. Clarity and completeness of the proposal.
4. Evidence of an interest in scholarship, such as a previous publication record.

Submission procedures: Brief proposals (five pages or less, double-spaced) should be sent to the ACRL office and include the following: Description of research, travel or writing project, schedule of project, estimate of expenses. (Examples: professional travel, computer time, photocopying, typing), and current curriculum vita. *Recipients of the fellowship will be asked to submit a brief report of the results of their research.*

Deadline: December 1, 1990.

Previous Recipients:: 1983 Denise Bedford, 1985 Anne L. Highsmith, 1987 Margaret Johnson, 1988 Carol Kelley, 1989 Robert H. Burger, 1990 Terence K. Huwe

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